

## A Decade of Rediscovery at Fort Clatsop National Memorial

### Lewis and Clark Winter Encampment Bicentennial

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**C**ommemoration helped to create Fort Clatsop National Memorial. During the 150th anniversary of the Lewis and Clark expedition, the local community constructed what is today the fort replica; the park was established three years later. To make the most of the bicentennial, Fort Clatsop National Memorial is sponsoring a “Decade of Rediscovery.” Beginning with the 40th anniversary of the park in May, 1998, the “Decade of Rediscovery” will lead into the millennium and culminate in May 2008 with the park’s 50th anniversary. Our strategy is not to focus on only the bicentennial years but to highlight a decade. In this way we hope to mitigate resource impacts and ensure quality interpretation/visitor services. This strategy appears to be working: visitation is up 28% over last year.

Many special activities and programs are planned spanning scholarly, interpretative, and preservation needs. Congresswoman Elizabeth Furse has introduced legislation in accordance with the 1995 park General Management Plan to expand the park boundary to include a 5.5 mile segment of the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail linking the park to the Pacific coast. A collaborative proposal to provide a county-wide transportation system and the donation of 100 acres of

county property would supplement the bill. The third field season of archeological investigations of the original fort took place in September in what is planned as a multi-year project.

In summer 1999, Dr. Gary Moulton will condense his 13-volume transcription of the Lewis and Clark journals into one book. As a scholar-in-residence at Fort Clatsop, Dr. Moulton will share his research and understanding of the Lewis and Clark expedition in a series of public lectures. Scholarly investigations in archival and archeological resources will serve as the basis for a new effort to reach new audiences, as Fort Clatsop staff use a Memorandum of Understanding with the Department of Education through the Northwest regional Educational Laboratory to identify and develop internet-based educational resources and programs.

This new research will also form a basis for the planning and development of a Clatsop Indian village in cooperation with the Chinook Nation. To be located in close proximity to the fort, the village will be a site for interpreting the history of cultural exchange between Lewis and Clark and the people already living in the Northwest.

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